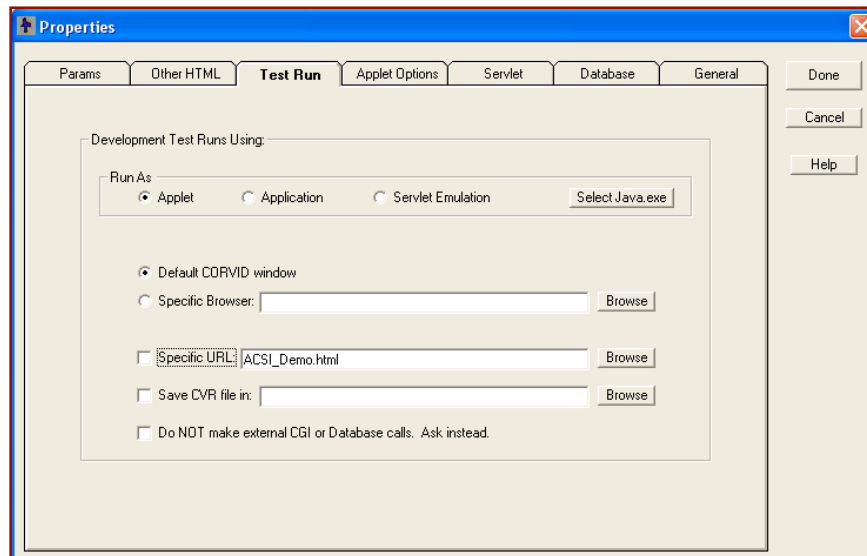**exsys Corvid How To**

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Options When Test Running a System From Corvid

When you click the blue triangular Run button in the Corvid editor, the default behavior is to use the **CorvidBrowser** program to display an HTML page that contains the Corvid applet which runs your expert system. The "Test Run" tab on the "Properties" window allows running a system in various other ways.

Running with a Specific Browser

The CorvidBrowser program that is run as the default, uses the core of Internet Explorer in a window without the usual browser controls needed for Web surfing, and simply displays the page with the Corvid system. To see how a system will look and work in other browser programs, or to make use of special capabilities of those browsers, a specific browser program can be specified to use for test runs. This is done by entering the path to the browser program in the "Specific Browser" edit box, or clicking the "Browse" button next to the edit box and selecting the browser program to use.

For example, if you want the full Internet Explorer browser to be used for test runs, type this into the 'Specific Browser' edit box:

C:\Program Files\Internet Explorer\IEXPLORE.EXE

You can also use any other browser such as Firefox or Opera. Just 'Browse' to its .exe file.

(A quick way to determine where the browser is located is to **right** click on the browser icon from the "Start" button when selecting "All Programs", or a desktop shortcut for the program. Select "Properties" from the dropdown list and look in the "Target" box.)

Running with a Custom HTML Page

When Corvid runs a system it creates a default HTML page, based either on the Corvid default template or a template specified for the system in the "Applet Options" tab of the "Properties" window. Normally Corvid will run the page produced from the template, however, a different HTML page can be specified.

To specify the page to run, simply enter it into the "Specific URL" edit box. The assumed folder for this page is in the same folder as the KB files. If it is in that folder, only the filename needs to be entered, rather than a full path. If the page is not in the folder with the other KB files, a full path can be used, including a full URL to a server.

This is needed when framesets are used and Corvid must call the top-level page, which will load another page with the Corvid system into one of the frames. To open a frameset instead of the normal 'KB.html' file, type the name of the frameset '.html' file into the 'Specific URL' edit box, such as:

> your_frameset_filename.html

It is sometimes desired to edit a page that runs the system to match the look-and-feel of a site, rather than creating a special Corvid template. In this case, first let Corvid create an HTML page based on the default template. This will have the correct APPLET tag to run the system. Then open this HTML file with a HTML editor and make any changes needed to provide the desired look-and-feel. Any parts of the page can be changed EXCEPT the code in the APPLET tag. Save this page with a DIFFERENT filename. (If the same name is used, Corvid will overwrite it next time the system is run.) Now specify the new name in the "Specific URL" edit box.

Running from a Server

A system can be test run directly from a server. This is particularly useful when testing a system that will be delivered with the Corvid Servlet Runtime. This is easy to do, provided your PC can write directly to the server.

The first step is to tell Corvid to save the newly edited files on the server. If your server is on a local LAN and you can put files on the server using UNC file names, then you can specify the location where the .cvR file is to be written. Type something like this into the "Save CVR file in'" edit box:

> //your_server_name/your_server's_shared_folder_name/your_KB_filename.cvR

Notice this starts with "//" and must include the name of the .cvR file and its cvR extension.

Note: To determine if the server is accessible using UNC file names: In Windows, do Start | All Programs | Accessories | Windows Explorer and click on 'My Network Places' or 'Network Neighborhood' or 'Network'. If the server's name is listed, look for the shared folder. The name of the folder you see may be different than its actual name.

The next step is to set the page to run to be on the server.   This is done by entering the appropriate URL in the "Specific URL" edit box.

To run the Corvid Servlet Runtime instead of running as an Applet, enter something like this:

> http://www.yoursite.com:8080/CORVID/corvidsr?KBNAME=../subfolder/your_KB_filename.cvR

(The actual URL will be whatever is used to run systems on your site).

If you want to run with the Applet runtime, but from the server instead of the local hard drive, enter the URL to the server in the 'Specific URL' edit box. For example:

http://www.yoursite.com/path/your_KB_filename.html

When running from the server, it is usually best to specify a full function browser program such as Internet Explorer or Firefox, rather than using the default CorvidBrowser program, which is not designed for general web browsing. If the URL contains a "?", then you must <u>NOT</u> use the CorvidBrowser which does not support this syntax.

Server Not on a LAN

When it is not possible to save files directly on the server, it is still possible to run from the server if they can be uploaded via FTP. This requires a few extra steps.

1. Set up the "Specific URL" to run for a URL on the server as described earlier.

2. Make any edits to the KB and select to run it. This will build the runtime CVR file, however the version running will be the previous one uploaded to the server.

3. Cancel the run when the first question is asked.

4. Send the newly created .CVR file up to the server via FTP.

5. Select to run the system again. This time it will be using the new CVR.

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